

UPDATE

HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center, Denver, Colo.

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Quotable Quote

"All the great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom; justice; honor; duty; mercy; hope."

— Sir Winston Churchill



Photo by Bobby Jones

Reservists need to register civilian employment info

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. — Time is running out for about 15,000 Air Force Reservists in the Selected Reserve to comply with a Department of Defense directive.

Oct. 31 is the deadline for Reservists who are paid for training to register information about their civilian place of employment. Some 60,000 of these Airmen, roughly 80 percent of the force, provided that information as of May.

The Civilian Employment Information Program is the first mandatory disclosure by members of the Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve of their civilian

employers into a common database. The CEI program began in March 2004.

"This past year we've made significant progress in employment-related data collection," wrote Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command, in a May 9 memorandum about the program.

"Senior-leader support, commander involvement and the personnel community's effective program management have resulted in a continual and steady increase in the Air Force Reserve's compliance numbers," he said. "However, despite our

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Air Force Reserve Chief visits AOR

Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley (center), commander of Air Force Reserve Command, chats with Reservists from a RED HORSE unit deployed to Afghanistan to repair runways. Rapid Engineer Deployable – Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer units use large, earth-moving equipment to construct or repair facilities at forward-operating locations around the world. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lt. Col. Anthony J. Seely)



CEI from Page 1

collective efforts, we fell short of the established Department of Defense goal of 75 percent for the Selected Reserve by December 2004.”

The Air Force Reserve fell short primarily because of system problems during the program startup, which caused inaccurate data files and an ineffective management tool for commanders.

The general and his personnel staff believe these problems no longer exist and urge Reservists to register online as soon as possible by going to <http://www.afrc.af.mil/reserveInfo.htm> and clicking on Civilian Employment Info Program.

An air reserve component Website is in development to streamline this process even more.

After clicking on the Web site, Reservists enter their employment status,

employer's name, mailing address, civilian job title and total number of years in their current civilian occupation.

Unlike previous military service efforts to voluntarily gather employer data, the CEI program is mandatory.

Reservists who knowingly fail or refuse to provide their employment-related information, or provide false information, may be subject to administrative action.

If on duty, they could face punishment for dereliction of duty under Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

DOD started the CEI program to obey three federal laws:

- Title 10, United States Code, Section 12302 considers civilian health, safety and interest before calling up Reservists.
- Title 10, USC, 10149 ensures call-ups do not affect too many Reservists with critical civilian skills.
- Title 38, USC, 4333 tells Reservists' employers about their rights and responsibilities under the Uniformed Services

Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

About 76,100 Reservists in the Air Force's Selected Reserve train on full and part-time duty – ready for immediate tasking from higher headquarters. Since Sept. 11, 2001, about one in three of them has been called up at some point. About 2,700 Air Force Reservists are currently mobilized – on full-time, active-duty status by order of the president. Many other Reservists volunteer to deploy worldwide for three months or longer missions.

DOD requires Reservists to update or revalidate their CEI information annually.



Air Reserve Personnel

UPDATE

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Officials explain AF Forms 40a preparation and submission

Courtesy of ARPC/DPP

The AF Form 40a, Record of Individual Inactive Duty training, is used to document pay and/or points for participation of inactive duty training. It must be accurate, complete and submitted within 30 days after completion of training. The form must indicate whether participation was for "pay" or "non-pay" include "date(s), duty hours worked, number of hours worked, and number of points."

The "duty hours worked" must be equal to the "number of hours worked."

The most common mistakes are that the forms were not signed and dated by the authorizing official, certifying official and Reservist. Incomplete and/or inaccurate forms are returned for correction, without action.

Failure to submit the AF Form 40a or delays caused by the return of incomplete and/or inaccurate forms could adversely affect a member's career. Areas that could be adversely affected by delayed posting of participation points are:

- * Annual point summary may not reflect accurate points
- * Annual point summary could reflect an unsatisfactory year of service
- * Retired Pay computed on the number of retirement points
- * Meeting requirements for Eligibility for Retired Pay at Age 60
- * Reserve Officer Promotions
- * Airmen under consideration for promotion
- * Retention in current assignment

For non-pay:

Fax: Commercial (303) 676-6893/DSN 926-6893 or mail to:
HQ ARPC/DPPKB

6760 E. Irvington Place #2100

Denver, Colo., 80280-2100

For pay:

Fax: Commercial (303) 676-6739/DSN 926-6739 or mail to:
AFRPO/FMFQ-P

6760 E. Irvington Place #9100

Denver, Colo., 80280-9100

For more information call the contact center at (800)525-0102.

Air Force approves wear of Afghanistan, Iraqi campaign medals

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas

- The Air Force has authorized wear of the Afghanistan Campaign Medal and the Iraqi Campaign medals.

The Department of Defense campaign medals apply to active duty, Reserve and Guard personnel deployed on or after Oct. 24, 2001 for Operation Enduring Freedom and March 19, 2003 for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Airmen must have been assigned, attached or mobilized to units operating in Afghanistan or Iraq for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days to be eligible.

The ACM is awarded for service for all land areas and all airspaces above Afghanistan.

The ICM is for service covering all land areas of Iraq, all adjoining water areas out

to 12 nautical miles and all airspaces above those areas.

Servicemembers are not entitled to more than one campaign and/or expeditionary medal for the same action, achievement, or period of service.

In addition, there are no devices for the ACM, ICM, and Global War on Terrorism Medal. A period of service is defined as an area of deployment, and includes the number of days criteria outlined above.

Members begin a second period of service when they forward deploy or return to home station and then redeploy later.

Airmen deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq, who have 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days, between the eligibility period and April 30, 2005 may elect to wear either the appropriate campaign medal or the GWOT-E medal, but not both.

Those who deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq, who have 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days, after April 30 can only earn the respective campaign medal for the area they served in.

Individual mobilization augmentees and participating individual ready Reserves can have their local commander's support staff or base military personnel flight verify eligibility and prepare an AF IMT 104 and fax it to HQ ARPC/DPRFQ at (800) 525-0102 or mail it to HQ ARPC/DPRFQ, 6760 E. Irvington PL., #2600, Denver, Colo., 80280-2600. IMAs and PIRRs who are seeking the award of the GWOT-service medal can also fax/mail all supporting documentation (mobilizations orders, TDY orders, travel voucher etc.,) to the address above.

For more information call the contact center at (800)525-0102.

Violence in Mexico prompts warning

According to the Department of Defense, a struggle between criminal organizations for control of the lucrative narcotics trade is fueling violent criminal activity along the US-Mexico border, especially in the vicinity of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. Although the violence, which is responsible for more than 60 deaths since January, including 30 U.S. citizens, is aimed at members of the drug trafficking organizations, criminal justice officials, and journalists, foreign visitors and residents, including Americans, have been among the victims of homicide and kidnappings in the border region.

In recent months violence has been centered in the city of Nuevo Laredo. The police chief in Nuevo Laredo was assassinated June 8, hours after being sworn into office. Mexican soldiers, federal police and federal investigations agency personnel deployed to assist local law enforcement June 12. Deployed forces have taken up positions around public buildings in Matamoros, Mexicali, Nuevo Laredo, Reynosa, and Tijuana. Forty-one local police officers have been arrested and taken to Mexico City. Commanders should ensure all potential DOD travelers to the affected area are briefed on current situation to include current state department travel warnings.

Contact your Office of Special Investigations for more information.

All members need a Family Care Plan

Courtesy of ARPC/XPX

AFI 36-2908, *Family Care Plans*, mandates the completion of family care plans for all Air Force members with families. This includes Air Force Reserve members, including individual mobilization augmentees and participating individual ready reserve members. Air Force personnel are deploying at an all-time high to meet the challenges of supporting contingency operations requiring temporary duty, along with overseas assignments to family-restricted areas and other duties requiring members to be separated from their family. These situations require unique family arrangements.

The Air Force assures itself of an available force to meet all of its needs by making certain that each member has made adequate arrangements for the care of his/her family members. Members may be subject to disciplinary action if they fail to make adequate and acceptable family care arrangements.

Members must document their family care plans on the AF Form 357 if they are single parents, dual military couples with family members, and members with civilian spouses who have unique family situations as determined by the commander.

Base individual mobilization augmentee administrators, indi-

vidual reserve program managers, or active duty supervisors are responsible for ensuring all newly assigned members are counseled on family care responsibilities during in-processing.

Commanders will designate in writing, a full-time support personnel to monitor the Family Care Program.

IMAs and PIRRs will notify their commander immediately if changes in personal status or family circumstances require completion of an AF Form 357. These may include:

1. Birth or adoption of a child
2. Loss of a spouse through death, separation, or divorce
3. Change in status to a dual military couple
4. Assumption of sole care for an elderly or disabled family member
5. Absence of spouse through career or job commitments or other personal reasons.

Members will designate an individual or individuals to care for family members when the member is absent fulfilling a military obligation.

Members can contact their base Staff Judge Advocate for assistance with power of attorney documentation. Refer to AFI 36-2908 for more detailed information. For more information call the contact center at (800)525-0102.

DOD announces increase in Death Gratuity and SGLI

WASHINGTON - The Department of Defense announced recently a significant increase in the death gratuity for the survivors of servicemembers killed in action and the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance coverage for servicemembers deployed to designated combat zones.

The Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror and Tsunami Relief Act 2005 (Public Law 109-13) increases this immediate cash payment from \$12,420 to \$100,000 for survivors of those whose death is as a result of hostile actions and occurred in a designated combat operation or combat zone or while training for combat or performing hazardous duty.

The supplemental also increases the maximum amount of SGLI coverage from \$250,000 to \$400,000 for all servicemembers effective Sept. 1, 2005 and provides that the department will pay or reimburse the premiums to servicemembers, who are deployed in a designated combat zone for \$150,000 of SGLI coverage (*See related SGLI article on page 5*).

Until the effective date for the SGLI increase, the supplemental provides for a special death gratuity of \$150,000, retro-

active to October 7, 2001, for survivors of those whose death is in a designated combat operation or combat zone or occurred while training for combat or performing hazardous duty.

The Secretary of Defense has designated all areas where servicemembers are in receipt of the combat zone tax exclusion as qualifying combat zones and all members deployed outside the United States on orders in support of Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom as participating in qualifying combat operations. Effective immediately, survivors of servicemembers, who die in these qualifying zones or operations, will receive the increased benefits.

The services will also identify eligible survivors of servicemembers who died in these designated zones and operations since October 7, 2001 and begin making the retroactive payments.

The process of identifying all eligible beneficiaries and completing these retroactive payments will take several months.

Survivors of members who did not die in a designated combat operation or combat zone, but were training for combat or performing hazardous duty, will also qualify

for the increased benefits.

Circumstances that qualify include: aerial flight, parachute duty, demolition duty, diving duty, war games, practice alerts, tactical exercises, leadership reaction courses, grenade and live fire exercises, hand-to-hand combat training, confidence and obstacle courses, accidents involving a military vehicle or military weapon, exposure to toxic fumes or gas and explosion of military ordnance. No amount of monetary compensation or level of assistance can replace a human life. However, it is the country's duty to recognize the loss of a servicemember with dignified and appropriate support for the family members left behind. These death benefit enhancements recognize the direct sacrifice of life of those servicemembers placed in harm's way and in service to the nation.

All beneficiaries for retroactive payments will be contacted by mail or telephone. If someone is not contacted, but believes they may be entitled to added benefits can contact the Air Force Personnel Center Casualty Services Branch at AFPC/DPFCS, 550 C Street West, Suite 14, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4216 or call toll-free 1-800-433-0048. (*Courtesy of Defense Link*)

Life insurance benefits gain increased emphasis

WASHINGTON – Air Force Reserve Command senior leaders want Reservists to know about the importance of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.

A recent tragedy involving a Reservist who declined SGLI coverage prompted a call for this benefit to receive more emphasis.

In addition to requiring Reservists to report to their military personnel flight to decline coverage in person, command officials are looking at adding squadron-level counseling by the first sergeant or commander.

This increased concern comes on the heels of legislation to increase the maximum coverage, to ensure beneficiaries know when an individual turns down the maximum and to help servicemembers who sustain traumatic war injuries.

The \$82 billion supplemental legislation signed into law by President Bush May 11 raises maximum SGLI coverage from \$250,000 to \$400,000 and provides payouts of up to \$100,000 for people with traumatic injuries.

In a new twist introduced through the legislation, troops with dependents must get their spouse's approval to purchase less than the full amount of SGLI coverage. In the case of people who are not married, the designated beneficiary will receive notice when the person purchases less than the maximum coverage.

Defense and Veteran Affairs officials are working on the details of the expanded benefits.

The increased SGLI coverage will start Sept. 1, and the so-called "traumatic SGLI" benefit will begin Dec. 1. The legislation directs that both benefits will be retroactive to Oct. 7, 2001, said Stephen Wurtz, the VA's deputy assistant director for insurance.

Traumatic SGLI benefits will be retroactive for troops who have lost limbs, eyesight or speech or received other traumatic injuries as a direct results of injuries received during Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom. The benefit does not apply to people suffering from disease.

The retroactive coverage increase is payable as a result of deaths in either operation, or under other conditions prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, Mr. Wurtz said. People enrolled in the SGLI program will notice an increase in their premiums when the increases take effect. The traumatic SGLI benefit will be rolled into the basic SGLI program and will likely cost about \$1 a month, Mr. Wurtz said.

Troops opting for maximum SGLI coverage – \$400,000 vs. the current \$250,000 – will see their monthly premiums increase from \$16.25 to \$26, Mr. Wurtz said. This is based on the rate of 6.5 cents per \$1,000 of insurance coverage.

SGLI coverage is currently available in \$10,000 increments, but as of Sept. 1, the increments will increase to \$50,000.

Because the rates have not changed, people who retain \$250,000 or less coverage will see no increase in their premiums,

Mr. Wurtz said, except for the \$1 "traumatic SGLI" premium.

While these expanded benefits will be provided retroactively, affected people won't be charged retroactive payments, he said. DOD will absorb that cost.

The new traumatic SGLI benefit is designed to provide "a quick infusion of cash" for cash-strapped families of troops recuperating from traumatic injuries received in the line of duty, Mr. Wurtz said.

Compensation will range from \$25,000 to \$100,000, and is designed to help families of severely wounded troops leave their homes and jobs to be with their loved one during recovery.

"These families incur a lot of expenses, and this is designed to help them financially," Mr. Wurtz said.

VA staff members will consult with DOD to write regulations that will put the new SGLI benefits into effect.

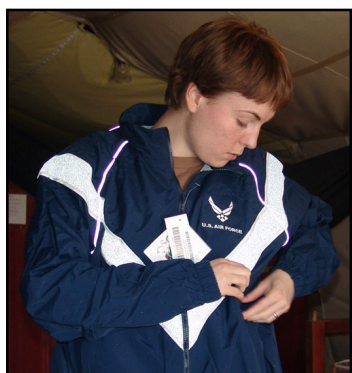
"Lots and lots of details have to be worked out," Mr. Wurtz said.

Among outstanding issues is the fact that the expanded SGLI coverage is part of the supplemental legislation package that funds operations only through Sept. 30.

That's 30 days after the new SGLI limit takes effect and two months before the traumatic SGLI benefit begins.

Mr. Wurtz said the VA is confident Congress will resolve this issue before there's any lapse in coverage. The VA will continue to oversee and control the SGLI program. (*AFRC News Service from American Forces Press Service*)

IMA PT uniform procedures announced



First Lt. Danielle Boz tries on new PT gear (photo by Capt. Aaron Burgstein)

Officials at Air Force Reserve Command have developed procedures for issuing the new physical training uniform to Reservists.

The new PT gear will be phased in for enlisted members over the next five fiscal years, starting in fiscal year 06.

Priority will be given to deployers in support of Air Expeditionary Forces and contingency operations. Within the area of responsibility, the Air Force component com-

mander will coordinate the wear policy with the combatant commander to ensure uniformity of wear in a joint environment.

Enlisted IMAs who deploy will need to provide a copy of orders or their deployment letter and contact ARPC/FMX at (800)525-0102 to make arrangements for purchase of the uniform.

For non-deployers, ARPC will work with the new IMA Readiness Management

Group to develop phase-in procedures starting in FY 06. Enlisted IMAs are exempt from wearing the new uniform until all have received it.

Officers may purchase the uniform when available at their own expense. There currently isn't a mandatory wear date for officers.

For more information call the contact center at (800)525-0102.

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Personnel Center works hard to provide better service - transformation is key

Contact center advances through 'transformation'

By Mike Molina
ARPC/PA

DENVER - An Air Force individual mobilization augmentee needs copies of her performance reports. An Air Force retiree has moved and needs to update his address in his personnel records. An Air National Guard member has lost his 20-year service letter and needs a new one.

Last year each of these scenarios would have required the member to call

the Air Reserve Personnel Center and speak with a customer service representative. The CSR might have spent five to 10 minutes on the phone with each of the members before the issue was handled.

But all that changed in November 2004, when ARPC's Service Delivery Transformation Team began transforming ARPC by identifying processes that could be automated or centralized to the Contact Center.

"Last fall, the (Service Delivery Transformation) team threw things on the wall that we knew could be automated or moved to the Contact Center," said Maj. Doug Ottinger, deputy director of PSD and the main coordinator of the SDTT.

Working with no additional funding, Major Ottinger and his team identified numerous personnel services that could be provided to the customer in a "self-service" manner using ARPC's Web site.

Members also can now go online and have questions and services answered through the Web. The Web-based service directs the member to input necessary information, so the CSR's have everything they need to serve the customer. "We used to use e-mail, but you'd be going back and forth with the customer to make sure you had all their information," Major Ottinger said. "With Web requests it guides the customer through the process, provides the customer immediate confirmation that we received their request via e-mail and auto-

matically assigns an issue management number for theirs and the CSRs reference."

In addition to the recent self-service enhancements, customers can now go to the Contact Center CSRs for assistance processing foreign language proficiency pay, Montgomery G. I. Bill for selected reserve,

"We (ARPC) are on the leading edge of the AF/DP's vision for personnel service delivery."

Col. Jim Playford
ARPC commander

academic verifications, community college of the Air Force actions, TRICARE Reserve Select enrollment and managing the tuition assistance program.

These were services previously provided by one or two people within ARPC; now it's a responsibility of everyone in the Contact Center.

"Moving these kinds of services to the Contact Center is really helping to change people's perception of our CSRs ... they are not telephone operators," said Major Ottinger. "We're now providing services

that used to be provided by a small group of people spread throughout the building."

The transformation is not complete either. The goal, says Major Ottinger, is to bring as many "front-line" personnel services from throughout ARPC and the Reserve into the Contact Center or on to the Web.

Soon to be fully automated are the 20-year service letters, which give members certain rights and privileges until they reach 60 years old, and retired pay estimate letters, which were previously processed solely by ARPC's retirements branch.

"We (ARPC) are on the leading edge of the Air Force's vision for personnel service delivery. Just as many of our private sector service providers have already transformed, the Air Force personnel community must transform the way it delivers services to make the best use of our most valuable resource — Airmen. The SDTT is ARPC's vehicle for reaching that vision," said Col. Jim Playford, ARPC commander.

3 - 2 - 1 - contact: Advances improve service

By Rachel Bubb
ARPC/PA

ARPC's new self-serve Web based section of the Contact Center is taking yet another step forward. The new contact center is exclusive to ARPC and its customers, and now it shows. The Web site that allows customers to take issues into their own hands now has its own logo.

"The significant change made was the incorporation of the new Virtual Personnel Center Guard Reserve logo into the header of this secure 'https' area. This step forward is similar to Air Force Personnel Center's branding of the 'Virtual MPF.' Through this area on our Web site customers are able to look up questions, receive answers, request

personnel products, and submit issues all online at the Tier 0 or 100 percent self-service level. ARPC is going to be marketing the term and logo 'VPC-GR' on the current public Web," said Thomas Laursen, ARPC's Web Administrator.

The logo itself is more than just colored graphics on a Web site. It is the marketing of a completely new feature of ARPC customer service.

It helps focus not only the ARPC Web site in general, but specifically on online customer support. The planned redesign of the entire ARPC Web site includes the



By Joe Herbertson
ARPC/Plans and Policies

DENVER — The Air Force Reserve Contact Center here is the sole point of contact for Air Force Reservists to enroll in Tricare Reserve Select.

This is the first time the Air Reserve Personnel Center has been able to provide a service to all Reservists under the Air Force Personnel Service Delivery Transformation Shared Services Organization model, a centralized personnel service.

The Fiscal 2005 National Defense Authorization Act established Tricare Reserve Select for Reservists who served on active duty in support of a contingency anytime since Sept. 11, 2001.

TRS is a premium-based health care plan. It offers a bridge for Reservists leaving active duty who are not covered by a civilian employer or other health insurance plans.

The plan is available for Reservists and their families. Coverage is similar to Tricare

Standard and comparable to the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plan for federal employees.

For each active-duty service period of 90 consecutive days, a Reservist earns one year of Tricare coverage if committed to serve in the Selected Reserve — Air Force Reserve Command Unit Program or Individual Mobilization Augmentee Program — for the same period.

Reservists must commit to serve by Oct. 28 and be serving in the Selected Reserve before TRS starts.

Coverage begins on the date of the agreement to serve in the Selected Reserve, the expiration of transitional Tricare benefits, or April 26, whichever is later. The decision to enroll in TRS is a one-time choice and the earliest effective date of coverage is April 26.

Tricare coverage ends when the service agreement ends.

It stops sooner if the Reservist separates from the Selected Reserve, voluntarily withdraws from the program or fails to pay the monthly premiums.

Monthly premiums are \$75 for an individual Reservist and \$233 for a Reservist and family.

Mobilized Reservists released from active duty after April 26 will be advised of their eligibility as part of their demobilization process.

Reservists serving on voluntary active-duty, man-day tours who do not go through out-processing, as well as mobilized members must call the Air Force Reserve Contact Center at 1-800-525-0102 to start the enrollment process.

People serving on voluntary man-day tours in an active-duty or Air National Guard organization in support of a contingency must ensure ARPC/XPC has a copy of their active-duty orders so the proper coding for the contingency tour can be entered in the personnel system.

Without this order, eligibility cannot be confirmed. Reservists who withdraw from the program or who are no longer qualified may not re-enroll unless recalled to active duty and a new qualification period is earned.

Active-duty health care benefits for recalled Reservists supersede TRS coverage.

Upon release from active duty, TRS coverage resumes after transitional benefits expire.

Reservists can enroll before their orders expire by going on line to www.tricare.osd.mil and following the instructions for the TRS program.

After they complete the Defense Department Form 2895, Reservists should fax it to (478) 327-2215/DSN 497-2215 or mail it to the Air Force Reserve Contact Center, HQ ARPC/PSDC1, 6760 E. Irvington Place #4010, Denver, CO 80280-4010.

The contact center will verify/approve the member's coverage and forward the completed form for filing.

Members can direct their questions to the Air Force Reserve Contact Center at (800) 525-0102 or at <http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/support/>, go to and click "New Request."

The Tricare Web site — www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/reserveselect — has further details.

the look and feel of our existing public Web site and into the new redesign," said Mr. Laursen. This new design "will ensure that customers will have the best experience possible on the ARPC web site."

ARPC is following AFPC's lead in creating a new and improved Web site to help generate an increased level of customer service and to enhance the Contact Center's ability to handle a variety of customer questions, comments and problems.

This is yet another step in trying to achieve the Web site's goal of bringing "frontline" personnel services into the Contact Center.

The new ARPC Web site is tentatively scheduled to be launched during the second half of July.

new logo and puts emphasis on the online interactivity. ARPC wants its customers to

associate the logo with quality service and create a sense of confidence when it comes to dealing with ARPC.

"ARPC Requirements and Data Ser-

vices Division is responsible for the Remedy software-based solution development you see online. ARPC Public Affairs and Information Technology Plans and Policies Division (are) working together and have handled the incorporation of this Web based Remedy software application into

Chaplain follows his "Eagle Trail"

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente
Andrews Air Force Base Public Affairs

In the dark, early hours of the morning at an accident scene, a young man or woman passes away from a motor vehicle accident. At this time, no one knows whom to blame, but someone must notify the family members.

Maryland State Police call Chaplain (Col.) Karl A. Chimiak, Maryland State Police chaplain, Charles County Sheriff's Department chaplain, Father and administrator for Sacred Heart Catholic Church of La Plata, Md., and individual mobilization augmentee of the 89th Airlift Wing Chapel 1.

It's not a glorified job, but unfortunately it's a job that must be done.

As he answers the phone and receives the information to do his job, Chaplain Chimiak dresses in his black suit and white collar preparing to tell another mother, father, husband or wife, their loved one has passed away in a car accident.

Among his many jobs, this is one he accomplishes 10 to 12 times a month for the Maryland State Police, said Sgt. Mark Karwacki, Maryland State Police Southern Division.

"He is the primary on-call chaplain for the Maryland State Police in St. Mary's, Charles, Calvert and portions of Prince George's counties," said Sergeant Karwacki. "Whether it's a fatal accident, out-of-state death notification, officers who are ill or troopers injured on the job, he may be requested to give the notification."

In addition to assisting state troopers, he also assists deputies in the Charles County Sheriff's Department.

"Father Karl receives at least a dozen calls from our office per month," said Capt. Joe C. Montminy, executive assistant to Sheriff Fredrick E. Davis, Charles County Sheriff. "He's very well known and respected in the community."

"Father Karl is very visible with the deputies," said Captain Montminy. "By riding along and assisting in notifications, he is very understanding and sensitive to the needs of the deputies."

Chaplain Chimiak also works as a pastor conducting mass, counseling sessions and confessions for the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in La Plata, Md., said Christine M. Knecht, Sacred Heart Catholic Church administrative assistant.

The parish includes 1,400 families who attend the church. Chaplain Chimiak also visits residents of La Plata, Md., who cannot visit the church, which include patients at Civista Hospital Center, Meridian Nursing Home, Charles County Nursing Home,

Mount Carmel Monastery and inmates of the Charles County Detention Center.

Among the many people whom he visits, Chaplain Chimiak is also an administrator for 520 children, grades pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, who attend the Archbishop Neal School, La Plata, Md.

For 26 years, Chaplain Chimiak has also been in the Air Force Reserve. He works at Andrews once a month for Reserve inactive duty training. He will retire from the Air Force this fall after he gives his final mass as a colonel in the U.S. Air Force.

"It will be a bittersweet day," said Chaplain Chimiak. "I'm going to miss the Air Force. It's been like a family to me."

Pope John Paul II blessed Chaplain Chimiak as a monsignor two days before passing away.

"It was a very unexpected honor," said the chaplain. "Monsignor is an honorary title from the Catholic Church. It's a priest with a position of a lot of responsibility."

"The cardinal said that the reason I was given the title was because of my work with the police force and my career in the Air Force."

Along with his promotion in the church, he has also received the Chaplain of the Year Award from the Maryland State Police for two years in a row and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal with three Bronze Stars for his work with the police.

Chaplain Chimiak recently reached his 25-year anniversary as an ordained

priest in the Catholic Church. His congregation took a collection for a trip to Rome, which he will take after his Air Force retirement.

Like his upcoming trip to Rome, getting to Air Force retirement has been a long time coming. He grew up around Andrews as a Navy family member in the 1950s. While growing up there, he became a Boy Scout with Troop 1275 which was sponsored by the "Air Police" squadron on base. The Air Force had already started influencing him to be his very best. It must have worked, he made it to Eagle Scout, the highest rank within the Boy Scouts.

Since he was already soaring like an eagle, he decided to make the Air Force his life, if not only part-time. He became a commissioned chaplain first lieutenant with the 1776th Air Base Wing at Andrews in 1980, became the Air Force Space Command Chaplain in 1990 and will wrap his career up with one more eagle ... the one on his shoulder borders.

Although his work as an Air Force chaplain will conclude this fall, he will continue to work with his parish and the police departments and always follow his "Eagle Trail."



Monsignor (Col.) Karl A. Chimiak, "Father Karl," performs Mass while at Andrews Air Force Base, Md. (Photo by Bobby Jones)

IMA gets new “gig” at AFNEWS

By Master Sgt. Tim Barela

Air Force News IMA

Born in Harlingen, Texas, a shrimpier's daughter has grown up to be a commander ... but not of a shrimpier fleet.

Col. Janice Gunnoe took over as the Air Force News Agency commander in May. That puts her back in Texas, albeit in San Antonio, about 255 miles north of Harlingen.

While her dad commanded two shrimpier boats, Colonel Gunnoe will command a much larger “vessel” with nearly 500 “crew members.”

An individual mobilization augmen-tee, Colonel Gunnoe is only the second Reservist to take the reins of AFNEWS. Before her current position, she was the IMA to the deputy director of Public Affairs, Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Public Affairs, at the Pentagon.

She admits that taking over as the AFNEWS commander hadn't been “on her radar.” She and her husband, Don Hughes, had just finished their master's of arts degrees in religion and had big travel plans.

“We both have wanderlust,” Colonel Gunnoe said. “We lead a nomadic life-style [they recently returned from China]. We love to experience different cultures. We both have a curious nature and want to see what's around the next bend.”

She said their goal is to visit as many countries as possible. But not just as tourists.

“We want to stay long enough to get to know the country and the people and to contribute something,” the colonel said. “Don loves to teach, and I like to concentrate on humanitarian issues.”

So why put those plans on hold to take command of a field operating agency with more than 480 Air Force and Army military and civilian members assigned to 28 locations worldwide?

She smiles, sighs, and then replies, “Temporary insanity.”

Joking aside, Colonel Gunnoe said she liked the challenge of being put in charge of a mission that “communicates news, information and entertainment through print and electronic media — keeping the Total Force, families and the American public

informed during peace and war.” But the main reason she took the job is even more basic.

“I felt I was needed,” the colonel said. “We have a lot of O-6s in the Public Affairs career field retiring, and the Air Force needed me here. In the Reserve you try to make yourself available when needed.”

While Colonel Gunnoe has pretty much worked at every level of Public Affairs — all the way from the wing to the Pentagon — her resume also could include waitress, administrative assistant, church secretary, and market researcher, as well as gigs handing out passes for movie screenings and working in the Columbia Pictures copy room.

Not your typical career path for an Air Force Academy graduate. But then, Colonel Gunnoe is not your typical Airman.

“I got out of the active duty Air Force to pursue a career in theater,” she said. “I love acting and singing.”

She pursued acting for years, but right after Desert Storm, her Reserve career evolved.

“I started getting pulled a lot more to do Reserve assignments,” she said.

“The Air Force started using IMAs more after the war,” she said. “I started getting pulled a lot more to do reserve assignments.”

Eventually, much of her acting pursuits gave way to the needs of her country.

“My acting career has actually helped me to become a better IMA,” Colonel Gunnoe said. “As an actor, you have to be a self-starter. You have to be flexible

and learn fast in new environments. Those are all qualities you need to be successful as an IMA. If you perfect those qualities, people shouldn't be able to tell the difference between an IMA and an active duty Airman.”

Colonel Gunnoe will need all those qualities as she takes AFNEWS through a proposed major realignment that could move the unit to Fort Meade, Md.

We're going through the most dynamic change in AFNEWS in decades,” she said. “Evolving under this realignment is a real challenge.”

For someone who “likes to see what's around the next bend,” this could be the perfect “gig.”



Colonel Janice Gunnoe



AIR FORCE RESERVE

JAG and paralegal news

Abolishment of the 9005th Air Reserve Squadron

The 9005th ARS, which all IMA judge advocates and paralegals were assigned to, went away with the implementation of the Manpower and Programming Execution System. All centrally managed IMAs (HC, JA, SG), including IMA judge advocates and paralegals, now show their unit of *assignment* as a validated wartime tasking. This is a funding issue for IMA positions and is likely not where the IMA actually performs duty. The unit of *attachment* continues to be where the member performs duty and should be used for all personnel actions. For more information call the contact center at (800)525-0102 and ask for JA.

IMA JA program management moves to AFRC

As part of the Reserve IMA reorganization, management of IMA judge advocate and paralegal programs will be transferred from HQ ARPC/JAR, Denver, Colo., to HQ AFRC/JAR, Robins Air Force Base, Ga., later this year. Most functions currently performed by ARPC will move to AFRC with the majority of the ARPC positions, while certain Corps-wide functions will move to HQ USAF/JAR, Washington, D.C.

Captain Sandra O'Hern and Staff Sergeant Marion Harrison are

performing an extended tour beginning at ARPC and finishing at AFRC.

They will help with the transition of the IMA JA program from Denver to Robins. For more information call the contact center at (800)525-0102 and ask for JA.

New attachment and assignment process for Cat B Judge Advocates

Effective July 1, all assignments, attachments and reattachments for IMA judge advocates will be handled by AF/JAR. The current Re-attachment Request Form will be discontinued in favor of an e-mail-based reattachment request and coordination process for use by active duty supervisors and Reserve managers. A new toll-free number for AF/JAR will be established in conjunction with this change.

The new process is expected to expedite reattachment requests while preserving the current level of coordination within the active duty and Reserve functional chains. A summary of the new attachment process is found on the ARC Web page at WebFLITE ARC site: <https://aflsa.jag.af.mil/AF/lynx/arc/> or call Colonel Andrew Turley, Comm: (703) 614-3191, DSN: 224-3191, e-mail: andrew.turley@pentagon.af.mil

Chaplain news

Calling Robins, not Denver

As the Chaplain Directorate heads into the homestretch of consolidating its program management at HQ AFRC/HC, it's time for all Chaplain Service IMAs to start calling Georgia for issues such as volunteer manning assistance, base attachments, and school tours. To reach that office, please call 1-800-223-1784, ext. 71475, or (478) 327-1475. For general personnel matters, such as retirements and separations, continue to call the customer service number for HQ ARPC.

For more information call the contact center at (800)525-0102.

Medical news

Medical Special Pay applications on the Web

Under 37 USC 302f, *Special pay: Reserve, recalled, or retained health care officers*, Reserve medical officers called or ordered to active duty, other than for training (not Annual Training, IDT, UTA and Special Tours), for a period of 30 days, but less than one year, may be eligible for the following Special Pays:

- Variable Special Pay - Medical and Dental Corps
- Additional Special Pay - Medical and Dental Corps
- Single-Year Incentive Special Pay - Medical Corps only
- Board Certification Pay - Medical, Dental, and specified Nursing and Bio-medical Science Corps fields

IMAs who desire to determine if they may be eligible, or want to learn more information on Medical Special Pays, should visit the ARPC Web-site <http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/sgm/sgmhome.htm>.

Air Force News



If you aren't looking at the United States Air Force Online News, you aren't getting all of the news. Check out your other Air Force newspaper at www.af.mil/news.

Briefs

BRAC 2005 process

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission is holding hearings and examining the Department of Defense's recommendations, a process that runs through September.

The commission sends an "all-or-nothing list" to the president, meaning the president can approve all of the closures and realignments on the list or disapprove the entire list. If he approves, the list goes to Congress.

The House and Senate have 45 "legislative days" to disapprove the list. If they do nothing, the list automatically is approved and has the force and effect of law.

BRAC communities regained 90 percent of lost jobs

Redevelopment efforts have created more than 115,000 new jobs nationwide in communities affected by the last four Base Realignment and Closure actions. Those employment gains account for nearly 90 percent of the civilian jobs that were lost as the result of BRAC rounds conducted in 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995.

The key to redevelopment success for communities affected by BRAC actions is early planning and consensus on what types of development will be undertaken on former military property. State and local community representatives are urged to get to know the DOD team of military and civilian officials who work BRAC issues.

Communities are also asked to pace themselves, because the BRAC process is long and arduous. For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123010722>. For more information about BRAC visit <http://www.af.mil/brac> or call 1-888-473-6120.

True Blue

Air Force Reserve Command launched its command-wide "True Blue" anti-drug campaign in April. In the past, anti-drug or anti-substance abuse efforts were negative and centered on disciplinary action, said Dr. Don Jenrette, the command's drug demand reduction program manager.

The new True Blue initiative promotes healthy living, career-mind sets and career role models. The focus of the AFRC Drug Demand Reduction Program will be enhancing readiness by eliminating substance abuse through prevention, education, community outreach and drug testing. For more on this program, visit <http://www.afrc.af.mil/NewsXtra/antidrug.htm>

DOD launches sexual assault prevention web site

Servicemembers who are victims of sexual assault or who need information on the Defense Department policy on preventing sexual assaults can find the information at a new Web site launched by Joint Task Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response.

The designers of the new site, which recently went live, had to name the site with the initials of the organization — sapr.mil — rather than something like "sexualassault.mil" because too many firewalls would block out a request under that name.

If a commander or a first sergeant has questions, this site should

provide the answers, but if not, they can send an e-mail via the site to a Joint Task Force member.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123010819>.

WOTS Enhancements

To help improve the notification that orders are ready to be downloaded from WOTS, IMA's will now be prompted to input an e-mail address in WOTS before saving their order requests. In the event the IMA elects not to enter an e-mail address, they can select "No E-mail Address."

Additionally, the PAS code for sorting requests has been added to help program managers locate requests more efficiently. The PAS Code will now appear on the view screen.

Discount airfare for military families

United Airlines is now offering reduced fares for active duty and Reserve members of the Navy, Marines, Army, Air Force and National Guard. In addition, servicemembers' spouses and dependent children are also eligible. These special fares are not available at the United Airlines website.

To purchase the special fares, servicemembers should contact United Reservations at 1-800-241-6522 and identify themselves as eligible for military fares.

All passengers eligible for these and other military fares must carry proper identification.

Servicemembers can travel with these special fares all the way through January 31. For more information on Military Travel Specials visit www.military.com/Travel

IDT policy change gives augmentees flexibility

A recent policy change modifies the inactive duty training policy for individual mobilization augmentees, and gives the Reservists more flexibility to schedule training requirements.

The Reservists and their supervisors are free to schedule training whenever they see fit within the first three quarters of the fiscal year.

The quarterly training days now are restricted only in the fourth quarter of the fiscal year. Waivers must be approved by the Air Reserve Personnel Center commander.

For more information, IMAs can contact their program manager or call the Center at (800) 525-0102. Read the entire news article at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123009884>.

VA chief: care for all servicemembers

With more than 200,000 Guardsmen and Reservists deployed supporting operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, Veteran Affairs officials expanded some of the benefits offered to this group of servicemembers. Education benefits have been expanded so they may participate in the G.I. Bill.

The life insurance and home loan programs have improved. Eligibility requirements can be found on the VA Web site. Benefits include vocational and rehabilitation training for those injured physically or mentally. VA officials are helping disabled

Briefs

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veterans adapt to their environment, including the modification of a home or a vehicle if needed.

The program was extended to families of veterans who also make a sacrifice. Injuries cause change for every family member and every family member needs to adjust to that change. In addition, benefit changes have affected life insurance provisions.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123010693>

Consumer recalls

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products. Members can find information on more than 4,000 product recalls and recall alerts using the various searches located at <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prerel.html>, or by visiting the AAFES product recall page at http://www.aafes.com/pa/news/QA_Recalls.htm.

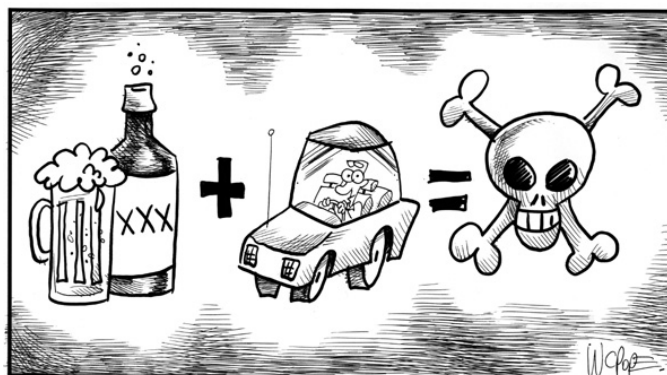
Earn more money while deployed

The U.S. government is offering any servicemember serving in a designated combat zone, qualified hazardous duty area, or di-

rectly supporting a combat zone, an opportunity to participate in a savings program that is free, guaranteed and fully backed by the U.S. government. Whether active duty, Reserve or National Guard, servicemembers are eligible to contribute up to \$10,000 to a no-risk, no-fee program that pays 10 percent annual interest, compounded quarterly.

Moreover, they can leave funds in the program for up to 90 days after redeployment, and the account will continue to draw interest.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123010411>.



Please don't drink and drive.

PT from Page 5

The new four-piece uniform includes two T-shirts, two shorts, and a warm-up suit with jacket and pants and will be available at military clothing sales.

Members who purchase the uniform using their personal funds will not be reimbursed.

Any combination of PT uniform items may be worn together (jacket with T-shirt and shorts, T-shirt with shorts and/or pants); PT uniform items will not be worn with any civilian clothing. Here are some more guidelines for proper wear:

T-shirt

May wear short or long sleeve (once available) style AF shirt and must be worn tucked into shorts.

Warm-up suit

Jacket, when worn, will be at least half zipped; the hood will be stored and zipped when not worn.

Socks/shoes

White socks will be worn — ankle or calf length, socks may carry conservative trademark logos.

Shoes must be a conservative color (i.e., white, black, dark blue, etc.)

Hats

Are not required when performing PT ac-

tivities; however, if worn, major command commanders or AF component commanders will standardize style and wear policy.

Saluting

Not required when performing PT activities; however is required when meeting individuals displaying appropriate rank and not performing PT activities, regardless of uniform type.

Hair

For women, must be neat and not allowed to hang loose below the collar; it will be tied back.

Jewelry

Jewelry wear will follow normal uniform wear rules.

AFRC new recruiting logo



AIR FORCE RESERVE

Air Force Reserve Command has a new advertising logo that more closely aligns it with the active force while touting the command as a high-tech, professional fighting force. Sleek and simple, the AFRC logo features the Air Force's new logo alongside the words "Air Force Reserve" in a stylish, modern typeface. AFRC recruiting officials began working with Blaine War-

ren Advertising in January to develop the new logo.

It replaces the "Above and Beyond" logo featured in Reserve recruiting and advertising products since 1998. The command will feature the new logo in all of its advertising products but will continue using promotional items with the old logo until they are depleted.